

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH PORTER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life, work, and memory of Elizabeth Porter. Liz dedicated her life to serving and empowering people in the pursuit of peace and justice. Tragically, at only 38 years old, Liz was taken from us on Saturday, October 25th due to a brain aneurysm. It is no surprise that this alarming news brought people from all over to Roberts Park in my district last Saturday to honor her amazing life.

Liz's work in the pursuit of global peace and justice was extraordinary. Fluent in Spanish and French, she began her career in public service by serving in the Peace Corps in Niger, Africa. Despite contracting falciparum malaria in her first month on the job and being flown to France for treatment, Liz didn't hesitate to immediately return to West Africa to complete her two-year assignment. Following her Peace Corps work, Liz then took part in the World Teach program in Manta, Ecuador.

Liz returned to the United States in the early 1990's, and earned a law degree from the University of San Francisco. Liz began serving the immigrant community as a staff attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance in Modesto, winning numerous cases. After more than 3 years, Liz moved on to the legal department at the California School Employees Association where she worked until her untimely death 2 weeks ago.

Liz was serious about her beliefs, but more than anything else, she was fun. She loved music, the outdoors, a good glass of wine—and her laughter was infectious. She also never missed sending a note or gift to one of her countless nieces and nephews. Liz—or “Fizz” as she was known to her 7 brothers and sisters—was a light for peace and justice in a world that desperately needed her passion, her strength, her laughter, and her love.

Liz is survived by her husband, John Gragnani, a marriage and family counselor with Contra Costa County, and a memorial fund has been established to continue assistance to a family in Togo, West Africa, that Liz had been supporting. I join my colleagues today in honoring her memory and her life.

CONGRATULATING SCOT STORM ON WINNING THE 2003 FEDERAL DUCK STAMP CONTEST

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scot Storm of Sartell, Minnesota, on winning the 2003 Federal Duck Stamp Contest. Scot's painting de-

picts a pair of redhead ducks flying over a pond. His inspiration for the painting came from a photograph he took in North Dakota.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsors the annual Duck Stamp Contest and I am proud to represent the winner for the second consecutive year. Groups from stamp collectors to conservationists purchase the stamps for their collections. Additionally, all waterfowl hunters are required to purchase and carry the Duck Stamp as a part of their license. Proceeds from the sale of the stamp go to purchase wetlands for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Since 1934, over half a billion dollars in proceeds from the Duck Stamp have purchased 5 million acres of habitat.

Mr. Speaker, Minnesota is proud of its hunting and fishing tradition and its commitment to conservation, exemplified in Scot Storm's winning stamp. On behalf of all Minnesotans, I congratulate him on this prestigious award.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2003

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the United States Marine Corps on its 228th birthday. This organization, founded on November 10th, 1775, has a proud history of challenges met and overcome in every war in which our country has been involved. From the historic battles of Mellow Wood in the First World War to the battles of Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, and Tarawa in the Second World War, to the modern conflicts in Panama, Somalia, and Iraq, the fighting men and women of the U.S. Marines have displayed the greatest valor and spirit. I wish to congratulate and honor all Marines and Marine veterans, with particular attention paid to those currently serving from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including 2,934 active duty Marines and 3,989 active reserve Marines in addition to the 2,259 retired Marines from our state. The U.S. Marines continue to be a storied organization upholding a proud tradition of freedom throughout the world. Congratulations to the U.S. Marine Corps.

HONORING BERKELEY-ALBANY YMCA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Berkeley-Albany YMCA on its centennial anniversary and acknowledge its years of dedicated educational service to the community.

In 1903, a group of 21 young Berkeley men gathered in the basement of the First Baptist

Church to create the Berkeley-Albany YMCA. They elected William Waste, then a young attorney, to be President. He continued on in that position for the next 37 years, even after he became Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court.

In 1906, the Berkeley-Albany YMCA performed its first act of community service, providing shelter and care to refugees of the San Francisco earthquake. That same year, meeting rooms, a gym, and showers were added to its rented quarters.

From 1909 to 1938, hundreds of thousands of dollars were donated by the public and prominent Berkeley citizens for the construction of a downtown Berkeley facility, an Albany structure, and a branch in West Berkeley. Additionally, 413 acres were purchased in Annapolis, California for the construction of a summer camp, YMCA Camp Gualala.

Bigger and better things soon followed, including day camps, several new buildings and additions, remodeling and expansion. An international exchange program began in 1968 with 16 students from Sakai, Japan whose visit was followed a year later by 16 students from Berkeley and Albany. In 1972, the YMCA became the grantee for a reorganized Head Start program, which it continues to operate, now in seven locations.

Today, with more than 30,000 members, the Berkeley-Albany YMCA is truly a community center for all. Opportunities for physical and mental advancement abound, whether in learning to swim, studying for a math test, or specialized aerobics programs for new mothers. The YMCA brings participants closer to a stronger physical, mental, and spiritual self.

Finally, as we honor the Berkeley-Albany YMCA today, I want to thank this organization for providing an endless stream of role models for our youth and teachers for our schools. I take great pride in joining the residents of Berkeley and Albany and all the alumni of the Berkeley-Albany YMCA to recognize and salute its accomplishments. I hope that the next 100 years are as exciting and gratifying.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BROTHER MICHAEL GAWORSKI

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 14, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Franciscan Brother Michael Gaworski, who died of complications from pneumonia on August 28, 2003. Brother Michael was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and raised in Eagan, Minnesota. He attended St. Thomas Academy and St. Thomas College.

In 1982, with encouragement from Archbishop John Roach, Brother Michael founded the St. Paul archdiocese's first community of religious brothers, the Franciscan Brothers of Peace. Additionally, Brother Michael was well

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